

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00920 260138Z

60

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CU-02 AID-05 A-01 /017 W

----- 071332

R 250730Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3805

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 920

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV; SEDU; AFSP; ALOW; ASCH

SUBJECT: ENGLISH PRIMARY SCHOOL OF LOURENCO MARQUES

SUMMARY: BACKGROUND AND PRESENT STATUS OF ONLY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN LOURENCO MARQUES. IF MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT CRACKS DOWN, SCHOOL MAY CLOSE. BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTY AND DECLINING EDUCATION LEVEL, ADEQUATE POST ALLOWANCE REQUESTED TO COVER AWAY FROM POST ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

1. HISTORY - SOME SORT OF PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS SERVED LOURENCO MARQUES FOREIGN COMMUNITY SINCE TURN OF THE CENTURY. IN 1947 PORTUGUESE EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES, IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM SOUTH AFRICAN AND BRITISH CONSULS GENERAL, ALLOWED SCHOOL BE ORGANIZED WITH ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD TO ADMINISTER IT. AFTER WEATHERING SEVERAL YEARS WITH FREQUENT CHANGES OF ADDRESS, IN 1966 A BUILDING FUND WAS LAUNCHED. IN 1971 20-YEAR LEASE SIGNED BETWEEN SCHOOL BOARD AND SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WHEREBY GOVERNMENT MADE APPROXIMATELY ONE ACRE OF LAND AVAILABLE WITHIN CITY OF LOURENCO MARQUES TO BUILD A NEW BUILDING. IN 1972 PRESENT SCHOOL BUILDING WAS COMPLETED.

2. INTERNATIONAL NATURE OF SCHOOL - STUDENTS ENROLLMENT INCLUDING NURSERY SCHOOL IS 140 REPRESENTING 113 DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES. LARGEST CONTINGENT IS 28 SOUTH AFRICANS. SINCE JUNE 14 TANZANIAN PUPILS HAVE ENROLLED AND SEVERAL ZAMBIAN STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED AS EMBASSY STAFF ARRIVES. TOTAL NUMBER OF AMERICANS IS 9, OF WHOM 4 ARE FROM OFFICIAL FAMILIES. TEACHERS ARE FROM SOUTH AFRICA, GERMANY, UK, IRELAND, PORTUGAL AND THERE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LOUREN 00920 260138Z

IS ONE US TEACHER. BOARD MEMBERS ARE UK, TANZANIAN. GREEK,

GERMAN, SOUTH AFRICAN AND THREE AMERICANS INCLUDING POST ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND PAO.

3. ADMINISTRATION - SCHOOL PS OWNED COLLECTIVELY BY PARENTS OF PUPILS ENROLLED, AND GOVERNED ACCORDING TO CHARTER LAST REVISED IN JUNE, 1974. NINE-MEMBER BOARD IS ELECTED AT ANNUAL PARENT MEETING. BOARD DETERMINES SALARIES AND APPROVES ALL EXPENDITURES CONNECTED WITH OPERATING AND MAINTAINING SCHOOL. THREE TRUSTEES ALSO ARE ELECTED BY PARENTS. THEIR DUTIES ARE CONFINED TO APPROVING MAJOR EXPENDITURES AND ANNUAL AUDITED ACCOUNTS.

4. FINANCE - SCHOOL BUILDING WAS PAID OFF USING ORIGINAL BUILDING FUND, DONATIONS FROM FIRMS AND INDIVIDUALS, AND SCHOOL FEES. IN ADDITION, SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS SINCE 1968 PAID A SUBSIDY OF 150 RAND (APP. \$216) PER CHILD TO SCHOOL BOARD BASED ON AVERAGE NUMBER OF "WHITE" SOUTH AFRICAN CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL. THIS SUM HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN USED TO IMPORT ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEXTBOOKS UNAVAILABLE IN MOZAMBIQUE. ALL OTHER OPERATING FUNDS ARE DERIVED FROM SCHOOL FEES PAID BY PARENTS.

5. PURPOSE - TO PROVIDE A PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION (GRADES 1-7) IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR CHILDREN OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, TECHNICIANS, BUSINESSMEN AND OTHERS ASSIGNED TO MOZAMBIQUE. IN ADDITION TO NORMAL SUBJECTS, PORTUGUESE AND AFRIKAANS ARE OFFERED. SCHOOL IN ACCORDANCE WITH LEASE SIGNED WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT (PARA 1) HAS FOLLOWED GENERALLY THE TRANSVAAL (SOUTH AFRICA) CURRICULUM.

6. PRESENT STATUS - PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL ANNOUNCE THE NATIONALIZATION OF ALL PRIVATE SCHOOLS OPERATING IN MOZAMBIQUE OF JULY 24. CONTRARY TO WHAT HAPPENDED IN OTHER INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, NO GPRM PERSONNEL TURNED UP AT THE ENGLISH PRIMARY SCHOOL THE NEXT DAY AND SCHOOL OPERATED NORMALLY. HOWEVER, LATER THAT YEAR, SCHOOL'S BANK ACCOUNT WAS FROZEN BY JUDICIAL POLICE AND ON AUGUST 8 REPRESENTATIVE FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, JOAQUIM ARAUJO, PRESENTED LETTER FROM LOCAL INSPECTION OFFICE OF MINED DESIGNATING HIMSELF "POLITICAL LEADER" AND "HEAD OF INSTRUCTION" AT SCHOOL. SUBSEQUENTLY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LOUREN 00920 260138Z

ARAUJO HAS BEEN AT SCHOOL INVESTIGATING ACCOUNTS AND INQUIRING INTO ALL FACETS OF CURRICULUM AND OPERATION OF SCHOOL.

IN RESPONSE TO SUGGESTION FROM ARAUJO, ACTING CHAIRMAN (CONGEN ADMIN OFF GEORGE CLEE) SENT LETTER TO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION EXPLAINING HISTORY, FINANCE, PURPOSE, AND ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL. LETTER EMPHASIZED INTERNATIONAL NATURE OF SCHOOL AND POINTED OUT ITS CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY. BOARD ALSO ASKED

TANZANIAN MEMBER (EMBASSY COUNSELOR NORMAN KIONDO) TO APPROACH FOREIGN MINISTRY IN LOW KEY WAY EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SERVING DIPLOMATIC FAMILIES.

7. COMMENT: KIONDO IS WELL-CONNECTED AND HAS BEEN ASSURED BY "HIGH-LEVEL" SOURCES IN BOTH EDUCATION AND FOREIGN MINISTRIES THAT EXISTENCE OF SCHOOL NOT THREATENED AND MINED JUST WANTS TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON. BUT AT SCHOOL ARAUJO IS BUSY DOING HIS THING, TO THE CONSTERNATION OF PRINCIPAL TEACHING STAFF, AND PARENTS. ARAUJO HAS SAID SCHOOL IS "NATIONALIZED" AND SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, LIKE ANYBODY ELSE WHO HAD PROPERTY IN THE OLD MOZAMBIQUE, DOES NOT OWN THE LAND NOW. WITH EXCEPTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN BOARD MEMBER N. NEL (ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER AT EX-CONSULATE) WHO HAS BEEN ARRAGANT AND CONTEMPTUOUS IN ARAUJO'S PRESENCE, SCHOOL BOARD SO FAR HAS DECIDED TO PLAY IT COOL AND BE AS CONCILIATORY AS POSSIBLE. IT IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE GOVT AT THIS STAGE, WHEN THEY CANNOT OFFER ANY ALTERNATIVES TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, WOULD RISK SCHOOL CLOSING BUT IF MOZAMBIQUE GOVT CRACKS DOWN AND SAYS TEACHERS HAVE TO SIGN GOVT CONTRACTS, OR BRINGS FRELIMO IDEOLOGY AND DITTIES INTO CLASSROOM, OR SAYS PUPILS MUST SHARE WITH TEACHERS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISCIPLINE IN CLASSROOM, OR DEMANDS THAT ALL EXPENDITURES BE CONTROLLED BY MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT, TEACHERS WILL RESIGN, PARENTS WON'T STAND FOR IT, AND SCHOOL WILL DIE. THERE IS NO VIABLE ALTERNATIVE FOR PRIMARY EDUCATION OF OFFICIAL AMERICAN CHILDREN IN MOZAMBIQUE.

STAFF VACANCIES HAVE BEEN CONTINUAL PROBLEM EVER SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1974 EVENTS. EDUCATION LEVEL HAS DETERIORATED AS LESS QUALIFIED TEACHERS ARE TAKEN ON TO FILL GAPS. IN VIEW OF UNCERTAINTY OF SCHOOL'S FUTURE AND DECLINING STANDARD OF EDUCATION OFFERED, CONGEN REQUESTS DEPARTMENT ALSO AUTHORIZE IMMEDIATELY FULL AWAY-FROM-POST ALLOWANCE FOR GRADES 1-7 SO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 LOUREN 00920 260138Z

THAT PARENTS WITH CHILDREN AT POST MAY OPT TO SEND THEM TO BOARDING SCHOOLS WITHOUT UNDUE HARDSHIP.
REED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMERICAN SPONSORED SCHOOLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LOUREN00920
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750294-0270
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750822/aaaaassx.tel
Line Count: 157
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OPR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ENGLISH PRIMARY SCHOOL OF LOURENCO MARQUES SUMMARY: BACKGROUND AND PRESENT STATUS OF ONLY INTERNATIONAL
TAGS: SEDU, ASCH, MZ, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006